

GEN

1. Dignity of birth; goodness of extraction.
2. Softness of manners; sweetness of disposition; meekness; tenderness.

My lord Sebastian,

The truth, you speak, doth lack some gentleness. *Shakespeare.*

Still she retains

Her maiden gentleness, and oft at eve

Visits the herds. *Milton.*

The perpetual gentleness and inherent goodness of the Or-

mond family. *Dryden's Fables, Dedication.*

Changes are brought about silently and insensibly, with all

imaginable benignity and gentleness. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

Masters must correct their servants with gentleness, pru-

dence, and mercy. *Rogers.*

Women ought not to think gentleness of heart despicable in

a man. *Clarissa.*

3. Kindness; benevolence. Obsolete.

The gentleness of all the gods go with thee. *Shakespeare.*

GENTLESHIP. *n. f.* [from *gentle*.] Carriage of a gentleman.

Obsolete.

Some in France, which will needs be gentlemen, have more

gentleness in their hat than in their head. *Affham's Schoolmaster.*

GENTLEWOMAN. *n. f.* [gentle and woman. See GENTLE-

MAN.]

1. A woman of birth above the vulgar; a woman well de-

scended.

The gentlewomen of Rome did not suffer their infants to be

so long swathed as poorer people. *Abbot's Disc. of the World.*

Doth this fir Protheus

Often resort unto this gentlewoman? *Shakespeare.*

Gentlewomen may do themselves much good by kneeling

upon a cushion, and weeding. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. A woman who waits about the person of one of high rank.

The late queen's gentlewoman, a knight's daughter,

To be her mistress's mistress. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*

Her gentlewomen, like the nereids,

So many mermaids, tended her 't' eyes,

And made their bends adorings. *Shakespeare. Ant. and Cleopatra.*

3. A word of civility or irony.

Now, gentlewoman, you are confessing your enormities; I

know it by that hypocritical down-cast look. *Dryden.*

GENTLY. *adv.* [from *gentle*.]

1. Softly; meekly; tenderly; inoffensively; kindly.

My mistress gently chides the fault I made. *Dryden.*

The mischiefs that come by inadvertency, or ignorance,

are but very gently to be taken notice of. *Lact.*

2. Softly; without violence.

Fortune's blows,

When most struck home, being gently warded, craves

A noble cunning. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

In the same island a sort of great bat, as men lie asleep

with their legs naked, will suck their blood at a wound so

gently made as not to awake them. *Grew's Museum.*

GENTRY. *n. f.* [gentler, gentry, from *gentle*.]

1. Birth; condition.

You are certainly a gentleman,

Clerk-like experienc'd, which no less adorns

Our gentry than our parents' noble name,

In whose success we are gentle. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*

2. Class of people above the vulgar; those between the vulgar

and the nobility.

They slaughtered many of the gentry, for whom no sex or

age could be accepted for excuse. *Sidney.*

Let states, that aim at greatness, take heed how their nobil-

ity and gentry multiply too fast. *Bacon's Ornam. Ration.*

How cheerfully the hawkers cry

A fadue, and the gentry buy. *Swift.*

2. A term of civility real or ironical.

The many-colour'd gentry there above,

By turns are rul'd by tumult and by love. *Prior.*

3. Civility; complaisance. Obsolete.

Shew us so much gentry and good-will,

As to extend your time with us a-while. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

GENUFLECTION. *n. f.* [genuflexion, French; genu and flecto,

Latin.] The act of bending the knee; adoration expressed

by bending the knee.

Here they make use of all the rites of adoration, genuflec-

tions, wax-candles, incense, oblations, prayers only excepted.

Stillingfleet's Defence of Disc. on Rom. Ind.

GENUINE. *adj.* [genuinus, Latin.] Not spurious; not coun-

terfeit; real; natural; true.

Experiments were at one time tried with genuine materials,

and at another time with sophisticated ones. *Boyle.*

The belief and remembrance, and love and fear of God,

have so great influence to make men religious, that where any

of these is, the rest, together with the true and genuine effects

of them, are supposed to be. *Tillotson's Sermons.*

A sudden darkness covers all;

True genuine night: night added to the groves:

The fogs are blown full in the face of heaven. *Dryden. Oedip.*

GENUINELY. *adv.* [from *genuine*.] Without adulteration;

without foreign admixtures; naturally.

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There is another agent able to analyze compound bodies

less violently, more genuinely, and more universally than the

fire. *Boyle.*

GENUINENESS. *n. f.* [from *genuine*.] Freedom from any thing

counterfeit; freedom from adulteration; purity; natural

state. *Boyle.*

It is not essential to the genuineness of colours to be

durable. *Boyle.*

GENUS. *n. f.* [Latin.] In science, a class of being, compre-

hending under it many species: as quadruped is a genus com-

prehending under it almost all terrestrial beasts.

A general idea is called by the schools *genus*, and it is one

common nature agreeing to several other common natures:

so animal is a *genus*, because it agrees to horse, lion, whale,

and butterfly. *Watt's Logic.*

If minerals are not convertible into another species, though

of the same *genus*, much less can they be furnished reducible

into a species of another *genus*. *Harvey on Conspiration.*

GEOMETRICK. *adj.* [*γῆ and μέτρον*; *geometrikos*, French.]

Applied to a plane or orb having the earth for its centre, or

the same centre with the earth. *Harris.*

GEODESIA. *n. f.* [*γεωδαισία*; *geodesic*, French.] That part

of geometry which contains the doctrine or art of measuring

surfaces, and finding the contents of all plane figures. *Harris.*

GEODETICAL. *adj.* [from *geodesia*.] Relating to the art of

measuring surfaces; comprehending or showing the art of

measuring land.

GEOGRAPHER. *n. f.* [*γῆ and γράφω*; *geographe*, French.]

One who describes the earth according to the position of its

different parts.

A greater part of the earth hath ever been peopled than

hath been known or described by geographers. *Brown.*

The bay of Naples is called the Crater by the old geogra-

phers. *Addison.*

From sea to sea, from realm to realm I rove,

And grow a meer geographer by love. *Tickell.*

GEOGRAPHICAL. *adj.* [*geographique*, French, from *geogra-*

phy.] Relating to geography; belonging to geography.

GEOGRAPHICALLY. *adv.* [from *geographical*.] In a geogra-

phical manner; according to the rules of geography.

Minerva has Ulysses into the knowledge of his country:

She geographically describes it to him. *Brown on the Odyssey.*

GEOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [*γῆ and γράφω*; *geographia*, Fr.] Geography in

a strict sense, signifies the knowledge of the circles of the earth

globe, and the situation of the various parts of the earth. When

it is taken in a little larger sense, it includes the knowledge of the

seas also; and in the largest sense of all, it extends to the

various customs, habits, and governments of nations. *Watt.*

Olympus is extolled by the Greeks as attaining unto heaven;

but geography makes slight account hereof, when they discourse

of Andes or Teneriff. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi.*

According to ancient fables the Argonauts sailed up the

Danube, and from thence passed into the Adriatic, carrying

their ships upon their shoulders: a mark of great ignorance

in geography. *Arbutnot on Cæsar.*

GEOLOGY. *n. f.* [*γῆ and λόγος*.] The doctrine of the earth;

the knowledge of the state and nature of the earth.

GEOMANCE. *n. f.* [*γῆ and μαντεία*.] A fortune-teller; a

caster of figures; a cheat who pretends to foretell futurity by

other means than the astrologer.

Fortune-tellers, jugglers, geomancers, and the incantatory

impostors, though commonly men of inferior rank, daily

delude the vulgar. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i.*

GEOMANCY. *n. f.* [*γῆ and μαντεία*; *geomancer*, French.]

The art of casting figures; the art of foretelling by figures

what shall happen.

According to some persons there are four kinds of divina-

tion; hydromancy, pyromancy, aeromancy, and geomancy.

Ascham's Parergon.

GEOMANTICK. *adj.* [from *geomancy*.] Pertaining to the art

of casting figures.

Two geomantick figures were display'd

Above his head, a warrior and a maid;

One when direct, and one when retrograde. *Dryden.*

GEOMETR. *n. f.* [*γεωμετρία*; *geometria*, French.] One skilled

in geometry; a geometrician.

He became one of the chief geometers of his age. *Watt.*

GEOMETRICAL. *adj.* [*geometrical*, French, from *geometry*.] Per-

taining to geometry.

GEOMETRICALLY. *adv.* [*geométriquement*; *geometrically*, French, from

geometry.]

1. Pertaining to geometry.

A geometrical scheme is let in by the eyes, but the demon-

stration is discerned by reason. *Moré's Anecd. against Abolism.*

This mathematical discipline, by the help of geometrical

principles, doth teach to contrive several weights and powers

unto motion or rest. *Wilkins's Math. Magick.*

2. Prefixed or laid down by geometry.

Must men take the measure of God just by the same geo-

metrical proportions that he did, that gather'd the height and big-

ness of Hercules by his foot? *Stillingfleet.*

Does

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Does not this wife philosopher assert,
That the vast orb, which casts so fair his beams,
Is such, or not much bigger than he seems?

That the dimensions of his glorious face

Two geometrick feet do scarce surpass? *Blackmore's Creation.*

3. Disposed according to geometry.

Geometrick Jasper seemeth of affinity with the lapis sanguinalis

described by Boetius; but it is certainly one sort of lapis cra-

ciformis. *Grew's Museum.*

GEOMETRICALLY. *adv.* [from *geometrical*.] According to the

laws of geometry.

'Tis possible geometrically to contrive such an artificial mo-

tion as shall be of greater swiftness than the revolutions of the

heavens. *Wilkins's Math. Magick.*

All the bones, muscles, and vessels of the body are con-

trived most geometrically, according to the strictest rules of

mechanicks. *Ray on the Creation.*

GEOMETRICIAN. *n. f.* [*γεωμέτρης*.] One skilled in geometry;

a geometer.

Although there be a certain truth therein, geométricians

would not receive satisfaction without demonstration thereof.

Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i.

How easily does an expert geométrician, with one glance of

his eye, take in a complicated diagram, made up of many

lines and circles! *Watt's Improvement of the Mind.*

To GEOMETRIZE. *v. n.* [*γεωμετρέω*.] To act according to

the laws of geometry.

We obtained good store of crystals, whose figures were

differing enough, though pretty shaped, as if nature had at

once affected variety in their figuration, and yet confined her-

self to geometrical. *Boyle.*

GEOMETRY. *n. f.* [*γεωμετρία*; *geometrie*, French.] Orig-

inally signifies the art of measuring the earth, or any distances

or dimensions on or within it: but it is now used for the

science of quantity, extension, or magnitude abstractedly

considered, without any regard to matter.

Geometry very probably had its first rise in Egypt, where the

Nile annually overflowing the country, and covering it with

mud, obliged men to distinguish their lands one from another,

by the consideration of their figure; and after which, 'tis prob-

able, to be able also to measure the quantity of it, and to

know how to plot it, and lay it out again in its just dimen-

sions, figure and proportion: after which, it is likely, a far-

ther contemplation of those draughts and figures helped them

to discover many excellent and wonderful properties belonging

to them; which speculations were continually improving, and

are still to this day. Geometry is usually divided into specu-

lative and practical; the former of which contemplates and

treats of the properties of continued quantity abstractedly;

and the latter applies these speculations and theorems to use

and practice, and to the benefit and advantage of man-

kind. *Harris.*

In the muscles alone there seems to be more geometry than in

all the artificial engines in the world. *Ray on the Creation.*

Him also for my censor I disdain,

Who thinks all science, as all virtue, vain;

Who counts geometry and numbers toys,

And with his foot the sacred dust destroys. *Dryd. Pers. Sat.*

GEOGNICAL. *adj.* [*γῆ and νόμος*; *geognique*, French.] Rel-